

WASHINGTON STATE COUNCIL ON AGING

FEBRUARY 24, 2016

STATE COUNCIL ON AGING MEETING MINUTES

Members Present:	Carl Bender, Cheryl Townsend Winter, Javier Figueroa, Ron Vivion, Patricia McIntyre. Paul Malinski, Marty Johnston, Phillip Lemley, Suzanne Holmes, Courtney Jaren, Helen Spencer Joanne Levine
Members Absent:	Sen .Karen Keiser, Rep. Sherry Appleton, Rep. Linda Kochmar, Barry Lamont, Aruna Bhuta, Ava Frisinger, Peggi Moxley
Guests:	Jason McGill, Lynn Ford, Cathy Knight, John Shannon
ALTSA Staff:	Rosemary Biggins, Bea Rector

ACTION ITEMS LIST	WHO	DEADLINE/DUE DATE
Meeting Date: February, 2016		
1. Members schedule appointments to meet with their Legislators on Senior Lobby Day 2/25	All	ASAP
2. Send list of members of Ways & Means Committee	Rosemary	Done
3. Develop draft LTE for Older Americans Act	PA&E Committee	TBD
4. Draft letters to Rep Newhouse, AWC, Sen Keiser	Rosemary	Pending
5. Research for any past state legislation/statute related to Medicare Observation status	Javier	March meeting
6. Draft material to increase awareness about Medicare Observation Status	Ron	TBD
7. Present definitions for monitor & support at March meeting.	Carl/PA&E Comm.	March Meeting
8. Prepare questions for Council to discuss about how to identify community leaders.	Paul/ PA&E Comm.	March Meeting
9. Send Javier the link to legislation search function	Rosemary	Done

Welcome, Remarks, and Introductions

Cheryl Townsend Winter, Vice Chairperson welcomed members and guests from Olympic Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council and Lewis Mason Thurston Advisory Council. Members and guests introduced themselves.

Council Business

The agenda was reviewed and approved. Previous meeting minutes were reviewed and approved pending edit of attendance section. The roster needs to be edited to correct first name spelling of member.

Action items were reviewed with number (3) OAA LTE & (4) invite letters pending. Joanne Levine reported that she obtained information that University of Massachusetts Institute on Gerontology does have the data from the Elder Economic Security Index project and is in process of determining how it will be maintained.

Helen Spencer shared that she has provided Nancy Hooyman information and a DVD on the Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs multidisciplinary team approach on elder abuse. Similar information may be located here: <https://www.nieji.org/pdf/multidisciplinary-team-approach-elder-abuse-presentation-121014.pdf>

Legislative Committee Update-Ron Vivion

HB1499 concerning vulnerable adults. The intent is to hold accountable those perpetrators who commit theft from seniors and people with disabilities by increasing penalties, reducing barriers to prosecution, and expanding scope of protection for vulnerable adults passed the House. A senate hearing is scheduled for today 2/24 at 5:30 PM and the Council will sign in with support

HB1725-the DSHS request bill that addresses overtime passed the House and is currently in the Senate Ways and Means committee.

SB6327- Care Act has passed the senate and is scheduled for a hearing in the house on 2/26 (identifies a caregiver for a person hospitalized and provides person training/intended to avoid costly readmissions to hospital)

Almost all of the bills related to guardianship have failed; however will set the mark for next year's session.

The Office of Public Guardian didn't receive additional funding however, as of today has not lost funding

The addition of (restoration) funding for hearing and vision aids failed.

Ron conveyed to members that if you didn't make an appointment yet with your legislator for tomorrow's Senior Lobby day, to please meet with a legislative aide and/or ask for floor time.

Ron participated in a group meeting with Sen Patty Murray to discuss the reauthorization of the Older American's Act and legislation related to Medicare Observation status at hospitals. He also met individually with Representative Suzan DelBene for a discussion about the same issues.

Partner Updates

W4A Update –Cathy Knight

Cathy shared there is still concern about the amount of funding that will be allocated to overtime and importance of contacting legislators about providing adequate funding. There also concern about efficient implementation of associated policy, i.e. using monthly versus weekly care plans.

Health Home funding is currently in both the senate and house budgets, with the latter including expansion to King and Snohomish counties.

Kinship Navigator funding is in the house budget but not the senate.

Aging Mastery Program (NCOA grant) –training was conducted on February 9th. Minnesota and Wisconsin also received grants.

Elder Justice Center legislation has not passed

Council Focus Areas

Elder Justice

Helen distributed information on Warm Springs Model

Guardianship

Cheryl completed the Guardianship PowerPoint with assistance from Peggi Moxley. It's posted in the Council Repository

There is a WINGs Conference on March 17th in Seattle. Peggi and Ron are attending

Alzheimer's State Plan Implementation

The Governor officially presented the Alzheimer's State Plan along with workgroup members at a media event February 12 pm.

A resolution in recognition and support of the plan was also introduced by Senator Karen Keiser on the senate floor. Some workgroup members attended and were formally recognized in the chamber

Medicaid Global Transformation Waiver

In Aruna's absence, this will be covered under the ALTSA update

Policy Update- Jason McGill, Policy Advisor, Governor's Office

Jason provided an update on legislative session and status of development of the supplemental budget. There has been a focus on mental health issues and some effort made toward a basic education framework.

He also discussed the status of implementation of the Affordable Care Act in the State.

To date 600,000 people have enrolled. At the height of the recession 16% were uninsured, today that has dropped to 6%.

Member discussion ensued about overall health care access, availability of data for people over age 55 and the federal share through 2020.

Jason commented on how health care costs have been held down. Phillip Lemley shared that his personal health care costs have gone down.

Jason shared that the Governor will not be able to make Senior Lobby tomorrow and that interim DSHS Secretary Patricia Lashway will be speaking.

He discussed the Governor's adoption of the recently developed State Alzheimer's Plan and how it will assist the state in prioritizing. The governor is also interested in exploring how we have more in depth conversations with health care providers, including palliative care and hospice options. Cheryl, a member of the state plan workgroup commented on aspects of implementing the plan

Members also discussed success of Health Homes and the need for better coordination of behavioral health and health care. Joanne commented that there is need to increase availability of Geri-psychiatric services and referenced need for services on the Olympic Peninsula as example.

ALSTA Update –Bea Rector

Bea reviewed LTSS related items in the senate budget that was released midday today 2/24; the house budget that was released last week. The review included information about the inclusion or absence of specific programs, i.e. Health Homes, Kinship Navigator and TBI Council as well as information about staff position requests, e.g. Quality Care positions for Residential Care Services in each budget

Bea discussed status of legislation to authorize the department to pay overtime (HB1725), provided brief background of the Department of Labor ruling and talked about related policy/procedure needing to be the least disruptive as possible.

Also discussed additional bills and budget provisos with impact/potential impact for ALSTA including moving people from the dementia unit at Western State Hospital that includes cost responsibility for long term care for behavioral health organizations, ALSTA or DDA as applicable; creating a new option for consumer directed services for people served by DDA or ALSTA, and the creation of a developmental disabilities ombudsman program (6564). 6564 also requires fatality reviews be conducted by Adult Protective Services

Bea provided an update on status of the 1115 waiver-there is no significant changes from last update provided in January. CMS has clarified they are not going to approved a year zero so there will need to be rapid start up to operationalize.

As mentioned in previous meeting McMillan was the successful bidder for the Long Term Financing Study. We are currently working on a contract.

Additional Council Business

Cathy and Cheryl provided additional detail about the Aging Mastery Grant, the geographic distribution across the state and diverse settings involved.

Ron reviewed membership of the Senate Ways and Means Committee. He also updated members on the status of 2726 which concerns some regulation of Continuing Retirement Communities.

New Business

Ron discussed potential for Council to develop increased public awareness about Medicare Observation Status and related legislation. (as previously mentioned Ron met with both Senator Murray and Representative DelBene about this issue recently.)

Extensive discussion ensued about what the Council has/has not done about increasing awareness of issues and ideas were also floated about how/methods to increase awareness about this issue.

As an outcome it was determined that more information is required about state statute and/or recent legislation in this area. Javier will research this history and share findings with members at the next meeting. Rosemary will send Javier a link to search function for legislation and also copy

Ron will work on drafting information related to this issue.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:45 PM